

trailblazer is Pontiac Police Captain Pamela Chambers. Captain Chambers is a true trailblazer: In 1989, she became the Department's first Black female Sergeant, and as such, she is the first to achieve the rank of Captain. By focusing on community policing, she has helped foster a stronger relationship between the city and the police. The third award goes to Makeda Newby. It is fitting that Ms. Newby was born the same year American astronauts landed on the moon; at a very early age, she decided that her goal in life was to fly airplanes. While at Tuskegee University, she studied and flew with Chief Alfred Anderson, one of the famed Tuskegee Airmen. She graduated from Tuskegee with both a Bachelor's Degree and a private pilot license. She went on to the J. Paul Getty Spartan School of Aeronautics in Tulsa, OK, where she became a certified instructor, and the school's first Black female instructor. Last year she was hired by International Freight Leasing, where she will pilot planes filled with automobile parts throughout the United States and Mexico. The fourth honoree is Ms. Margarita Garcia-Boylston. Ms. Boylston decided in 1987 to begin a business with Mary Kay Cosmetics. As she built this business, she worked a full-time job, raised two teenaged girls, graduated with honors from Oakland Community College and Cleary College. As a Mary Kay representative, Ms. Boylston has received many prizes and rewards for her success. Recently she was promoted to the position of Elite Sales Director, and became Senior Sales Director just three months later.

The Club's Community Service Award goes to two individuals, Cheryl Scott and Malkia Geni Maisha. Ms. Scott, known as Shari to her friends, cares very much about giving back to her community. She has tutored academically challenged students throughout Pontiac, and has been an advocate for the Michigan Animal Adoption Network and the recently founded Michigan Animal Protection Agency, where she serves as a Board member. Ms. Maisha works part-time with the Michigan Metro Girl Scout Council in the Pontiac School District, helping teach a curriculum that involves self-esteem, diversity, citizenship, and many other qualities that will help these young ladies grow to be well-rounded members of society. Ms. Maisha also serves as an Executive Board member of the North Oakland NAACP, and is Secretary for the Metropolitan Minority Chamber of Commerce.

Shira Washington, a senior at Pontiac Central High School, will receive this year's Clara Hatchett Musical Scholarship. With a 3.94 GPA, Ms. Washington is a member of the National Honor Society Softball Team, Drama Club, and is President of the A Capella Choir. She has been recognized throughout her high school career for her superior singing ability as well as her literary skills, and this year, where she has had her writings published on several occasions.

The Ombudswoman Award is given to the group's most active member, and this year, that person is Irma Johnson. An elementary school teacher in the Pontiac School District, Ms. Johnson has been a part of the Club for more than 20 years. In addition, she is very active in the community and in her church, where she serves as a member of several

ministries and is Sunday School Superintendent. She strives to be aware of all activities and changes, while actively pursuing a Master's Degree in Reading and Language Arts.

Another colleague of mine, Mr. Richard Williams, is being honored with this year's Bridge Builder Award, for his tremendous work in improving communication and interaction between Pontiac and the county administration. As Director of Community and Minority Affairs, reporting directly to the County Executive, Mr. Williams has proven himself invaluable as an advocate for the city. He has worked with numerous groups designed to improve our schools and develop more affordable housing. As an ordained minister, Richard has also been a vital part of the Oakland County Ministerial Alliance.

An award of special recognition is being given to Ms. Tommaleta Hughes. Originally from Detroit, Ms. Hughes joined the Pontiac School District as a teacher, after graduating from Tuskegee University in 1969. She taught elementary school for 15 years, sometimes serving as Head Teacher, operating as building administrator when the Principal was not in attendance. In 1984, she became Principal of Whitmer Human Resources Center, which two years later was recognized as one of the 26 most improved schools in the state. She moved on the School District's administrative level, where she became Director of Personnel and then Assistant Superintendent of Personnel and Employee Relations, the position she held until her retirement in June of last year. Wanting to remain a strong advocate for children, she ran for and currently holds a position as a member of the Pontiac School Board. Ms. Hughes is a true community activist. She has worked on several local government boards, and has been a member of the Pontiac Optimists Club and Kiwanis. She is also a Life Member of the North Oakland NAACP.

Last, but certainly not least, the Sojourner Truth Award itself this year will go to Mrs. Sarah Frances Grady. A Michigan native, Mrs. Grady is a retired computer assembly worker from Rochester, MI who selflessly devotes much of her time volunteering in the Pontiac community. A recipient of the Michigan Association for Leadership Development's Outstanding Volunteer Award, she has served at St. Elizabeth Home for 42 years, helping bathe and feed clients, and also worked at the Pontiac Mini Police Station for several years. For 500 nights, she participated in a march against drugs in the city.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club's 35 year commitment to community service, and their mission to seek answers toward critical issues in the areas of health, education, employment, and economic development. These awardees have exemplified the highest of qualities, and I ask my colleagues in the 107th Congress to please join me in congratulating them all.

# STATEMENT ON CHILD LABOR TO THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on March 28th, I submitted a statement to the Committee on Education and the Workforce during hearings on H.R. 1, the "No-Child-Left-Behind" education proposal. The purpose of my testimony was to call attention to the negative effects that working long hours at after school jobs is having a serious negative impact on our nation's teens. Recent studies have shown that a correlation exists between working long hours after school and decreased academic performance as well as increased drug and alcohol use by teenagers.

Mr. Speaker, the Young American Workers' Bill of Rights Act (H.R. 961) which I introduced earlier this year sets sensible limits to the number of hours teenagers can work during times when school is in session. H.R. 961 would assist both families and teenagers' struggling with the competing interests of holding a job while gaining an education.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to share my statement with our colleagues in the House, and I request that my testimony to the Committee be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

STATEMENT BY CONGRESSMAN TOM LANTOS, THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE, H.R. 1, "NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND," MARCH 28, 2001

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Ranking Member and distinguished members of the Education and Workforce Committee, I appreciate the opportunity to share my views with you today. As you begin to consider the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), I urge you to keep in mind the negative effects that working long hours is having on our children's education.

Working during the school year has become much more commonplace among America's youth over the past decades. Currently, nearly 25 percent of 14-year-olds and 38 percent of 15-year-olds have regular scheduled employment during the school year (as opposed to casual baby-sitting or yard work). A recent National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY) indicates that almost two-thirds of high school juniors are employed during the school year and that these students work an average of 18 hours per week. Another study, published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in December 1999, reports that the number of working teens has grown by 15 percent in the past five years and that nearly seven million teens age 16-19 were employed in all sectors of the United States economy.

Mr. Chairman, as you and your colleagues know, American students continue to score at or below average on international tests. The Third International Mathematics and Science Study showed that American high school seniors on average spend slightly more than three hours a day working at a paid job—more than their counterparts in any of the other 20 nations studied. Some experts believe that such intense work schedules might explain the poor showing of U.S. students on international tests. In both math and science, even America's best 12th

graders scored well below the international average.

Laurence Steinberg, a professor of psychology at Temple University recently conducted a three-year study (1987 to 1990) of 20,000 students at nine high schools in northern California and in Wisconsin. He determined that a work-load of more than 20 hours seems to mark the point at which work is increasingly linked to a drop-off in the amount of time students spend on homework an increase in their feelings of detachment from school. His research is backed up by Wendy Piscitelli, head of the foreign language department at Hatboro-Horsham High School in Horsham, PA. She states, "once they get up into 20 or 25 hours. . . they can't keep up the extracurricular activities, and they don't get enough sleep." These conclusions are shared by a teacher at the Governor Livingston Regional High School in Berkeley Heights, N.J., who discussed a problem she is having with one of her students who regularly works past midnight at a local diner. The student, a senior, has trouble making it to school on time, and when confronted about falling asleep in class responds, "but I am making money, Mrs. Tonto."

These students, who are placing after-school employment above their education aren't getting enough sleep at night and are catching up during the day, in the classrooms. A 1999 National Sleep Foundation survey found that 60 percent of children under the age of 18 complained of being tired during the day, and 15 percent reported sleeping at school during the past year. Mr. Chairman, I ask you, how can we expect our children to learn when they are sleeping through the school day? Another problem that arises when students are working more than 20 hours a week is that they begin to cut corners with their school work to accommodate their job. This accommodation manifests itself in many ways, often in the form of cheating, or taking a less challenging schedule.

Moreover, a number of studies document that long work hours are associated with all sorts of undesirable teenage behavior. According to a recent study by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), working more than 11 hours a week has a strong correlation with the likelihood that teenager will smoke and drink. Working more than 26 hours per week has the same correlation to use of marijuana or cocaine. An earlier CDC study found that students who worked more than 11 hours a week had significantly higher rates of sexually transmitted diseases and unwanted pregnancies. There is also ample evidence that when the number of work hours exceeds 15 hours per week during the school year, academic pursuits suffer. On average, grades go down and truancy increases. When work and school obligations conflict, the great majority will give top priority to their jobs.

Mr. Chairman, studies have shown that the majority of children and teenagers who hold jobs in the United States are not working to support their families, but rather are employed to earn extra spending money. I see nothing wrong with minors working to earn extra spending money and I think we all can agree that it is important for children to learn the value of work. I do think, however, that it is a serious problem when teenagers spend almost the same amount of time working at an after school job as they spend in school. We need to set sensible limits on the hours that minors are permitted to work when school is in session so that our children can focus on their primary job—earning a good education.

Mr. Chairman, under current Federal law, minors aged 14- and 15-years-old may not work for more than three hours a day and a maximum of 18 hours a week, when school is in session. It is also unlawful for 14- and 15-year-olds to work before 7 a.m. and after 7 p.m. so that work will not interfere with learning. Minors who are 16 and 17, however, face no federal restrictions when it comes to the number of hours they can work, and they often are required to work late into the night.

I recently introduced legislation, H.R. 961, the Young American Workers Bill of Rights, which would set sensible limits to the hours teenagers work in addition to their academic schooling. Mr. Chairman, I urge the Committee to consider including the provisions of this bill in your reauthorization of the ESEA. My legislation would reduce the hours 14- and 15-year-olds would be allowed to work while school is in session, while also setting standards for the number of hours that 16- and 17-year-olds can work while school is in session. My legislation caps the hours of 14- and 15-year-olds at fifteen hours per week. The hours for 16- and 17-year-olds would be limited to 20 hours per week. When one adds these hours onto the average amount of time a teenager spends in school, the student is still putting in close to 40 hours a week. This does not include time spent on homework, extracurricular activities, or time spent just being a teenager. I think we can agree that too many teenagers are working long hours at the very time they should be focusing on their education.

Mr. Chairman, let me state unequivocally that I, and supporters of my legislation, do not oppose children taking on after school employment. We firmly believe that children must be taught the value of work. They need to learn the important lessons of responsibility, and they need to enjoy the rewards of working. Furthermore, it is not our aim to discourage employers from hiring young people. Rather, our goal is to ensure that the employment opportunities available to young people are meaningful, safe, healthy, and do not interfere with their important academic responsibilities. A solid education—not after-school employment—is the key to a successful future.

Mr. Chairman, as you and the rest of your committee began to debate the reauthorization of the ESEA, I strongly urge you to consider the sensible labor standards that my legislation sets forth. These common-sense limits provide American teenagers the ability to have both a valuable academic instruction, while learning the value of work.

#### TRIBUTE TO BEECH ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 4, 2001*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, on April 28, 2001, in Granville South Carolina, the Beech Island Historical Society will host the Fifteenth Annual Beech Island Heritage Day Celebration. As in the past, the theme of Heritage Day is 315 years of Beech Island history. To illustrate that history, the society invites artists and craftsmen to demonstrate ancient skills practiced by Native Americans and early American skills that settlers brought with them to Beech Island. Re-enactors also recreate Beech Is-

land history from Colonial days to the Civil War era.

The theme of this year's 15th Heritage Day is the history of "Silver Bluff—A Celebrated Place." Silver Bluff, located on the South Carolina side of the Savannah River about 10 miles from Beech Island, was visited in the 1500's–1700's by Spanish and English explorers and was the site of Irishman George Galphin's trading post and plantation and British Fort Dreadnought, which was recaptured by revolutionary forces under Lieutenant Colonel Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee in 1781.

This year's Heritage Day will feature a wide variety of Colonial and Early American craftsmen demonstrating traditional, but almost forgotten skills, such as: molding pewter, gunsmithing, hand sewing, blacksmithing, spinning, quilting, basket weaving and chair caning. Mr. Speaker, please join me and my colleagues in congratulating the Beech Island Historical Society for hosting this wonderful event.

#### HONORING SERGEANT PHILLIP THICK

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 4, 2001*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to rise and pay tribute to the men and women of the Lapeer County, Michigan, Sheriff's Department. These brave men and women constantly and diligently work to improve and defend the quality of human life. On May 11, the Department will honor one of its own, as friends, family, and colleagues will gather to celebrate the retirement of Sgt. Phillip Thick after more than 30 years of service.

Phillip Thick was born in my hometown of Flint in 1949. His family moved to Lapeer, where he graduated from Lapeer High School in 1967. From there, Phillip went on and graduated from the police academy, and later attended and graduated from the FBI National Academy in Quantico.

Phillip has enjoyed a tremendous career in Lapeer County. From his beginnings as a police cadet, he became a Detective/Sergeant in 1970, and has maintained this position throughout his career. During this time he became qualified as an expert in fingerprint identification, fire scene investigation, traffic investigation, photography, and drowned body recovery. He became a Deputy Medical Examiner and was state certified as an AFIS Operator last year. In 1995, Sgt. Thick was honored by his peer as Deputy of the Year.

Sgt. Thick's contributions outside the police force are just as significant. In addition to being a member of the FBI National Academy Associates, he is a member of the AFIS Internet Association, and the Lapeer Masonic Lodge. His experience as a photographer has allowed him to become a member of Wedding and Portrait Photographers International.

Mr. Speaker, I am exceptionally proud to have a person in my district like Sergeant Phillip Thick. It takes a special kind of person to patrol our streets and ensure our citizens' safety, and thanks to his dedication and commitment to justice, Lapeer County is a better